

**James Madison to Henry Clay, October 9, 1830.
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ed. Gaillard Hunt. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons,
1900-1910.**

TO HENRY CLAY. MAD. MSS.

Montpr., Octr. 9, 1830.

Dear Sir —I have just been favoured with yours of the 22d ult. inclosing a copy of your address delivered at Cincinnati.

Without concurring in everything that is said I feel what is due to the ability and eloquence which distinguish the whole.¹ The rescue of the Resolutions

¹ "At the epoch of 1798–9, I had just attained my majority, and although I was too young to share in the public councils of my country, I was acquainted with many of the actors of that memorable period; I knew their views, and formed and freely expressed my own opinions on passing events." He insisted that the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions contemplated action to correct the evil of federal usurpation by the States collectively, following the same line of reasoning as that of Madison.— *Works* (Federal Edition), vii., 401.

of Kentucky in -98 & -99, from the misconstructions of them, was very apropos; that authority being particularly relied on as an *ægis* to the nullifying doctrine which, notwithstanding its hideous aspect & fatal tendency, has captivated so many honest minds. In a late letter to one of my correspondents I was led to the like task of vindicating the proceedings of Virginia in those years. I would gladly send you a copy, if I had a

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suitable one. But as the letter is appended to the N. Am. Review for this month, you will probably have an early opportunity of seeing it.¹

¹ *Ante* p. 370.

With my thanks, sir, for your obliging communication, I beg you to accept assurances of my great & cordial esteem, in which Mrs. Madison joins me, as I do her, in the best regards which she offers to Mrs. Clay.